

H.C. Banleigh Papers

Bastedo

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AN OUTLINE OF THE HISTORY
of
JACOB BASTEDO, U.E.,
AND OF THE FAMILY HE FOUNDED IN CANADA.

JACOB BASTEDO, descendant of a Spanish Huguenot family that had sought refuge in Holland and come to America about the year 1628, rather than take the oath renouncing his allegiance to the Crown of England abandoned his lands which were situated where the city of Schenectady now stands, and taking only such possessions as could be transported over the rough trails by teams, came to Canada as a United Empire Loyalist in October 1784. At that time he was forty-one years of age and his wife whom he had married in 1767, Clarissa-Jean, daughter of Cornelius Van Slyke and great-great-granddaughter of Cornelius Antonissen Van Slyke who in 1646 was "first patentee of the Katskill", was thirty-five. Her sister Christiana also came to Canada with her husband Major Gilbert Tice, a Royalist officer who subsequently became an officer of the Indian Department. The husband of another sister was a follower of Washington and her grandson, Martin Van Buren, became eighth President of the United States. The Van Slyke crest was a rising sun. In the Sixth Concession of Kingston Lot No.5 comprising two hundred acres, and another lot of the same acreage in Concession No.1 of the Township near Cataragui were allotted to Jacob, but about the year 1790 he removed with his family to the Township of Stamford in the Niagara Peninsula, where he died in 1829 at the age of eighty-six, his wife having pre-deceased him the previous year. Their ten children were: David; Elizabeth, born December 23, 1770; Ackers, born September 12, 1772; Louis and Gysbert, born October 3, 1775; Joseph, born April 30, 1780, and Cornelius, both of whom were killed at the Battle of Chippewa on July 5, 1814; Abraham, who returned to the United States; John, who settled in Nelson, married Mary Flewelling and had six children - Maurice, William, Jacob, Gilbert, Elizabeth and Katherine; and Gilbert Tice, born October 18, 1777, who married Marion, daughter of John Thompson of the Whirlpool, and had six daughters - Janet Nixon, Elizabeth, Marion, Clarissa-Jane, Sarah and Rebecca, and six sons - Jacob, John Thompson, David, Gilbert, Walter and James, of whom the first three were officers in the Gore Militia in 1837.

David Bastedo, the eldest son of Jacob, was born in Schenectady on December 3, 1769. He served as Lieutenant, and later as Captain, in the First Battalion of the Second Regiment of Lincoln Militia during the War of 1812, and married Elizabeth, daughter of Peter McMicking, a Loyalist pioneer of Stamford, sometime High Constable at Queenston and one of Butler's Rangers. From his uncle, Major Tice, David inherited a large estate and sold extensive lands to Sir Peregrine Maitland where, on the brow of the mountain above St. David's, the Governor built his famous "cottage" of twenty-two rooms. For his services in the war he received a grant of Lots Nos.11, 12 and 13 in the Second Concession of the Township of Blenheim, one of which he gave to each of his three eldest sons. His daughter Catharine married Thomas Stock, many times Warden of the County of Wentworth; and Christina was the first wife of Joseph Rogers of Toronto. His four sons were Peter, Gilbert, John McMicking and Jacob. In the year 1854 he died at the home of his daughter Mrs. Stock.

During the War of 1812 Captain Peter Bastedo, David's eldest son, fought

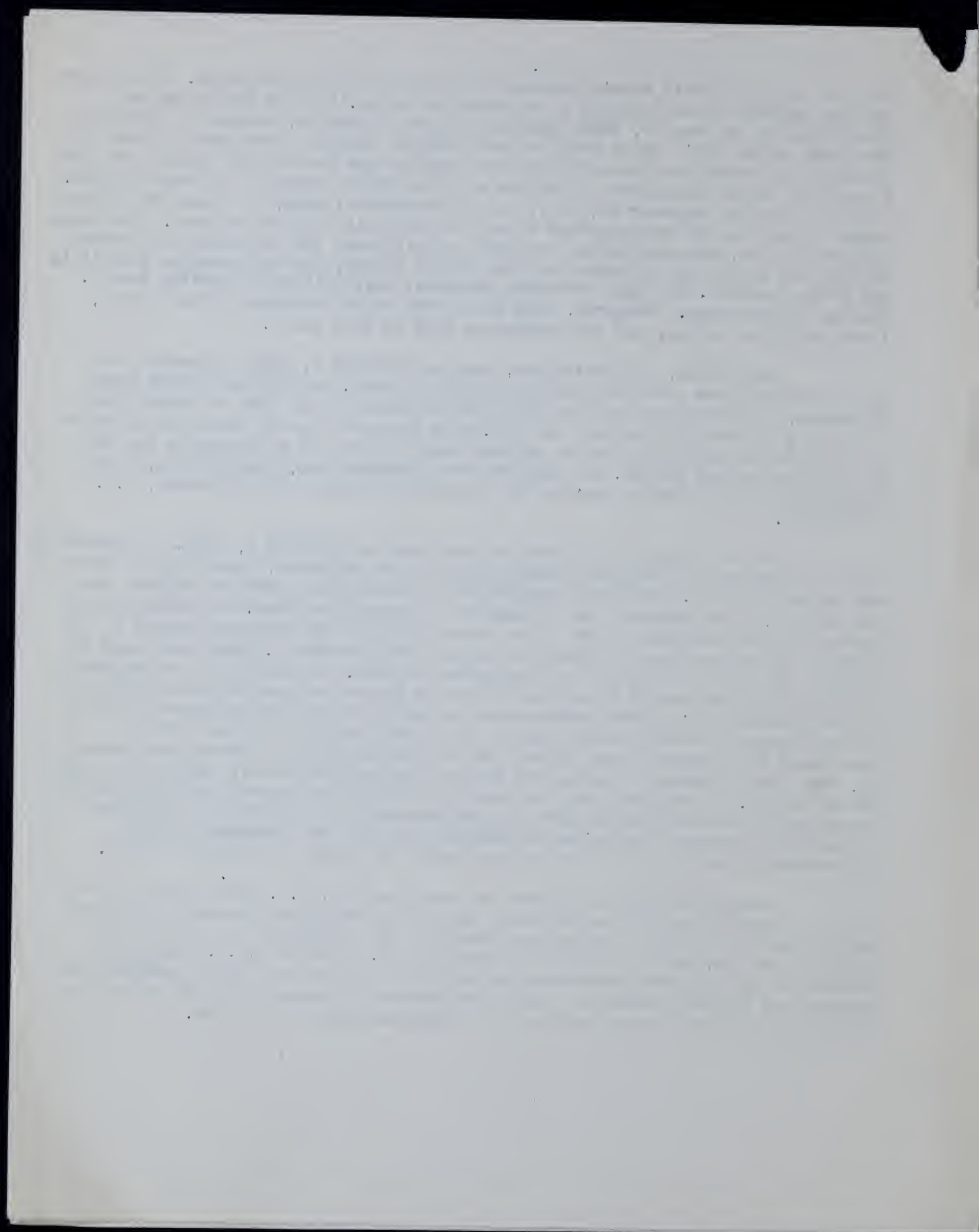


as a private in Captain Rowe's Company of the Second Lincoln Regiment. In the year 1817 he settled in the Township of Blenheim on Lot No. 11 which his father had given him, and on June 27, 1820, married Margaret Galbraith, reputed to have been the first white female child born in the County of Oxford, a daughter of John Galbraith and Mary Cron whose father James Cron of the Township of Augusta received a grant of two hundred acres of land as a United Empire Loyalist in November 1794. Upon his death on December 14, 1834, in his forty-first year, his widow of thirty-three - she lived to be eighty-one - was left with six children to rear. Their sons were David Tice, John Galbraith, who went to California via the Isthmus of Panama in 1850 and to British Columbia in 1860, Joseph Rogers, Thomas Beveridge Goodwillie and Peter Campbell. The only surviving daughter, Mary Galbraith, married John G. Lindsay of Princeton, Margaret, born six months after the death of her father, lived but three months, and John McMicking died at four years.

David Tice, the eldest son, born on February 8, 1823, inherited the homestead and there spent his life of sixty-six years. In 1852 he married Sarah Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Ann Tovel of Hamilton who came to Canada from the County of Norfolk, England, in 1830. Much respected in the community in which he lived he was appointed Justice of the Peace, and he was a Captain in the 7th Battalion of Oxford Rifles. His children were Margaret Ann, Samuel Tovel, Peter, Albert Edward and Sarah Elizabeth, who married Frederick Arnold Clarkson, M.D., of Toronto.

Samuel Tovel, the eldest son, was born on December 4, 1855. On October 30, 1884, he married Ida Virginia Straubel and had two daughters, Agnes Alberta Straubel and Katherine Tovel. The former married George Ballantine Coutts of Calgary and had one son, David Bastedo, and a daughter, Margaret Katherine. For sixteen years he was private-secretary to Sir Oliver Mowat, Premier and Attorney-General of the Province of Ontario, and afterward to the Honorable Arthur S. Hardy who named a Township in Ontario "Bastedo" to perpetuate the name. After holding the position of Deputy Commissioner of Fisheries in Ontario for seven years he was appointed by the Government of Canada Commissioner to negotiate with the Provinces for the relinquishment of their fishery rights, and later, in 1908, by the British Government to represent Great Britain on the International Fisheries Commission, Dr. David Starr Jordan, President of Leland Stanford University, representing the United States. He resigned from the Commission to become Superintendent of Canadian Government Annuities, a department of the Government instituted by Sir Richard Cartwright to promote thrift among Canadians and thus be a monument to his statesmanship, and this position he held until his death on December 2, 1926.

Among the many descendants of Jacob Bastedo, U.E., who fought in the Great War were Captain Alfred Bastedo, son of John MacGregor Bastedo of Toronto, who was one of the first two undergraduates of the University of Toronto to be killed in action, and Lieutenant-Commander Paul H. Bastedo, U.S.N., second in command of the subchaser detachment of the United States Navy which screened the British and Italian warships in their bombardment of Durazzo, and who had charge of Unit B which sighted three Austrian submarines and sank two of them.



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